

**LESSONS OF LIFE**  
**IN ALBOM'S *THE FIVE PEOPLE YOU MEET IN HEAVEN***

**THESIS**

Presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements  
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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

Abrams in Nurgiantoro (2010: 2) states that : “The definition of prose in the world of literature is also called fiction, narrative text, and narrative discourse”. Based on the word, the definition of fiction is an imagination. Abram said, fiction involved narrative work which is not direct into the truth of history.

Novel is considered as a very effective way in carrying significant problems of human life. The author usually puts the problems of life in the story of the novel. Samekto (1976: 61) states that, “ The nature of literature usually describes the life as the way it is and reveals how the life is supposed to be. Therefore, it can be said that a novel represents the natural life of human being”. Love, sacrifice, loyalty, disappointed is one of human’s problems are usually used by author as topic in a story.

Mitch Albom’s *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* is a meaningful book which tells about a man named Eddie who is travelling after he died. He meets some people in his journey to heaven dealing with the life before his death. There, he meets five people who teach him lessons of life.

The main character gets five lessons from five people who remains him that those lessons give more benefits during his life. By those lessons Eddie then thinks that life is short. Life is also brings us lessons that we can bring to heaven after death.

Life gives us many lessons, even though sometimes we feel bored with it but something we suggest useless and boring can make the other live. Something always connected with other things. From the story, the writer wants to know deeply about the theme described in the story because there are so many lessons which benefits to us in our real life. This novel is full of lessons about life. How is life supposed to be. It can be said that this novel represents the actual life of human being. Many problems faced by human being, are reflected in this novel. The problem faced by the main character in the story usually face also in a real life. Through this story, it can be seen clearly that there are so many sides and lessons which indirectly reflect our real life.

Based on the explanation above the writer tried to discuss lessons of life experienced by Eddie as the main character in Mitch Albom's *The Five People You Meet In Heaven* as a title.

## **1.2 Statements of the Problems**

Based on the title, the statements of the problem focus on:

1. What is the general description of Eddie as the main character in Mitch Albom's *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*?
2. What are conflicts experienced by Eddie in *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*?
3. What are the settings described in Mitch Albom's *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*?
4. What is the theme of *The Five People You Meet In Heaven*?

### **1.3 Scope of the Study**

In analyzing Mitch Albom's *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*, the writer gives some limitation to get a good result and specific study. The writer only focuses on the description of the main character, conflict, setting, and theme.

### **1.4 Objective of the Study**

The objectives of the study can be stated as follow:

1. To present the general description of Eddie in Albom's *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*.
2. To describe the conflicts experienced by Eddie as the main character in Albom's *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*.
3. To describe the settings in Mitch Albom's *The Five People you Meet in Heaven*.
4. To describe the theme of Mitch Albom's *The Five People You Meet In Heaven*.

### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

1. For the writer:

Hopefully, the study can increase the writer's ability in discussing problems related to literature.

2. For the reader:

It is expected can give more benefits for students who study literature.

### 3. For the university

Hopefully, the result can give a contribution and provide a perception about the problems of the novel that analyzed by the writer as the references in Dian Nuswantoro University's library, particularly English Department.

## 1.6 Method of the Study

### 1.6.1 Research Design

Based on the subject of analysis, the writer uses the qualitative descriptive method. It is able to give a description of the subject research based on the data that variable from the subject analyzed. Related to this novel, the method can be used to analyze cause and effect in each event that happen in the story to determine the plot as follow:

In this qualitative descriptive method aimed to give a description about the subject research base on the data that variable from the subject analyzed and does not aimed for hypothesis testing (Harsono, 1999: 114).

In accordance to Endraswara's statements that the important features from qualitative research are:

- a. Researcher is the key instrument who will read accurately the literary work.
- b. The research is done descriptively; it means explaining in the form of word or picture if needed, not numeral formed.
- c. Qualitative research prioritizes more on process than the result.

d. The analysis is inductive.

### **1.6.2 Units of Analysis**

The writer focuses on the intrinsic elements only, such as character, conflict, setting and theme.

### **1.6.3 Source of Data**

The writer uses source of data as a material in composing the research which related to the topic. First data is called primary data. It can be taken from in novel *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*. The second data is literary theories that is obtained from books and internet which related to the topic.

### **1.6.4 Technique of Data Collection**

In getting the data, the writer needs many materials to strengthen the research. The writer uses the library research to collect the data. According to Semi “ The data for this were collected through library research in a working room library, where the needed data and all or some information about the subject matter are acquired through book or, and audio visual means (1993: 81). The most important data is *The Five People You Meet in Heaven's* novel. To understand the story, the writer also needs some technique, they are:

1. Read the whole story using close reading method to understand it deeply.

2. Get the important text and information dealing with the subject discussed as the quotation and data.
3. Classify the data according to the statement of the problem.
4. Write the research report.

#### **1.6.5 Technique of Data Analysis**

For the analysis, the writer uses structural approach. It is applied to analyze the intrinsic element such as character, plot, conflict, theme of the novel, etc. According to Semi, structural approach is the basic assumption that literary work as a creative work has full autonomy, which has to be seen as a figure, which part from the outside of intrinsic element. While Jean Piaget states the Terminology of structure has three characters: totality, transformation, and otoreguration (Harsono, 1995: 47-48). The writer decided to use this method to analyze the intrinsic elements in *The Five People You Meet In Heaven*.

### **1.7 Thesis Organization**

This thesis consist of five chapters, they are arranged as the followings:

Chapter I is Introduction. This chapter describes about the background of the study, statement of the problem, scope of the study, objective of the study, significance of the study, method of the study, and thesis organization.

Chapter II is Author and Synopsis of the Story. This chapter describes about Mitch Albom's biography and his works and synopsis of *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*. Author's biography and works tells about the history of the author's life which reflected to the topic and his contribution in the literature

development on his age. Synopsis of the story describes about the summary of the story which related to the topic.

Chapter III is Review of Related Literature. This chapter describes about theoretical aspect of literature that are going to be used in the research. It presents the theories of intrinsic elements namely character, conflict, setting and theme.

Chapter IV is Discussion. This chapter describes about the analysis of the research, the main part of this thesis and its reveal, discuss the points that have been written on the scope of the study referring to the review of related literature.

Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion. This chapter describes about the result of the analysis. They are summaries of the points that are discussed in the chapter of discussion, the argument or the opinion of the writer, and the recommendation or suggestion.



## **CHAPTER II**

### **AUTHOR AND SYNOPSIS**

#### **2.1 Author Biography and Works**

Mitchell David Albom was born on May 23, 1958 in Passaic, New Jersey. Albom was not only a best-selling author. He was also a newspaper columnist for the Detroit Free Press and radio host for ABC and WJR-AM in Detroit. He was an internationally renowned and best-selling author, journalist, screenwriter, playwright, radio and television broadcaster and musician. His books have collectively sold over 28 million copies worldwide; have been published in forty-one territories and in forty-two languages around the world; and have been made into Emmy Award-winning and critically-acclaimed television movies.

Mitch grew up wanting to be a cartoonist before switching to music. He taught himself to play piano and played in music bands, including The Lucky Tiger Grease Stick Band, throughout his adolescence. After attending high schools in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, he left for college after his junior year. He earned a bachelor's degree in 1979 at Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts, majoring in sociology, but stayed true to his dream of a life in music. Upon graduation, he worked for several years as a performer, both in Europe and America. One of his engagements during this time included a taverna on the Greek island of Crete, in which he was a featured American performer who sang Elvis Presley and Ray Charles songs. He also wrote and produced the recording of several songs. In his early 20's, while living in New York, he took an

interest in journalism and volunteered to work for a local weekly paper, the Queens Tribune. He eventually returned to graduate school, earning a Master's degree from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism, followed by an MBA from Columbia University's Graduate School of Business. During this time, he paid his tuition partly through work as a piano player.

In 1995, he married Janine Sabino. In the same year he reencountered Morrie Schwartz, a former college professor who was dying of ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. His visits to Schwartz lead him to the book *Tuesdays with Morrie*, which moved Mitch away from sports and began his career as an internationally recognized author.

Mitch was also an accomplished song writer and lyricist. Later in his life, when music had become a sideline, he would see several of his songs recorded, including the song "Hit Somebody (*The Hockey Song*)" which he wrote for rock singer Warren Zevon. Albom also wrote and performed songs for several TV movies, including "*Cookin' for Two*" for Christmas in Connecticut, the 1992 remake directed by Arnold Schwarzenegger. He has also written seven other books, including the bestseller, *Tuesdays With Morrie* (1997). His other works include *Live Albom I* (1987), *Live Albom II* (1990), *Live Albom III* (1992), *Live Albom IV* (1995), "*BO*" (1989), which was the autobiography of former University of Michigan football coach Bo Schembechler, and *Fab Five* (1992), which was a story about the University of Michigan's men's basketball recruits who became starters as freshman, during the 1990's. *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* was published in 2003. Aside from writing novels, Albom has also been

deemed the one Sports Columnist in the Nation by the sports editors of America. He has received over 100 writing awards from National Sportswriters and Broadcasters Associations, Headliners Club as well as many others. His work has also appeared in publications such as *Sports Illustrated*, *GQ Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, and *TV Guide*. In 2010, Albom was named the recipient of the Red Smith Award for lifetime achievement by the Associated Press Sports Editors. He lives with his wife, Janine, in Detroit, MI.

## **2.2 Synopsis of the Story**

*The Five People You Meet in Heaven* tells about a man named Eddie. He is a maintenance in an amusement park named Ruby Pier. He is about eighty three years old. He is a squat, white haired old man, a short neck, a barrel chest, thick arms, and faded army tattoo on his right shoulders. He wears an old linen cap, his pale brown uniform suggested a workingman.

In the last day, Eddie sits in an old aluminium beach chair. This is regular spot on the Ruby Pier boardwalk, behind the jackrabbit ride, in 1980's which is called the Thunder Bolt, in the 1970's which is called Steel Eel, in the 1960's which is called the Lollipop Swings, in 1950's which is called Laff in The Dark and which before that is Stardust Band Shell, where Eddie meets Marguerite.

At the last twelve minutes to live, Eddie sees a young girl around eight years old who stood before him blocking sunlight. Her name is Amy or Annie. Amy is a young girl who helped Eddie at Ruby Pier. At the time, The accident

happen there, A top Freddy's Free Fall, The new "tower drop" attraction. Freddy Free Fall is drop two carts. The cable that lifted cart no.2 has been scraping accross a looked pulley The pulley is wedged by a small object that must have fallen through the opening at a most precise moment a car key. It was too late. The carts were dropped and the cable were snapped. It's a final ahead and ripped across the hidraulic line. The carts no.2 is in the dead drop now. Nothing to stop it and then Eddie yelled and turned to the crowd. " GET BACK" and the Little Girl raised his arms and Eddie lunged to help her. He half fly, half stumble toward her landing on the metal plat form which ripped through his shirt on split open his skin just beneath the patch that is read Eddie and maintenance. This is the beginning where Eddie meets the five people who related to his life after his death because of the accident that happen in Ruby Pier. From this beginning Eddie get lessons about life. Where each other has relations with others. Each people teach a lesson to Eddie, from a lesson which Eddie gets during the journey he knows how important the life he has.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

This chapter describes theoretical aspect of literature that used in the research. There are several elements which build the literary works itself. They are character and characterization, conflict, setting, point of view, and theme. Concerning those intrinsic elements, the writer only focuses on character, conflict, setting, and theme.

#### **3.1 Character**

According to Perrine. Reading the character is more difficult than reading the plot. Character is more complex, variable, and ambiguous. Anyone is able to repeat what a person has done in a story, but considerable skill may be needed to describe what a person is (Perrine, 1984: 66).

Character is one of the most important elements, the people who were told in a story. Moreover, characters talk about an individual's personal characteristic. Although sometimes readers use the word character synonymously with person, human being and literary figure, more often they use it in reference to individual or personal characteristics.

In the same source, Perrine also state that.

“The character in the story must act, if there is to be a story; when they do not act, the story approaches the condition of an essay. It will give us not a character but an explanation. A story is succesfull when the characters are dramatized, shown speaking and acting, as in drama.” (Perrine, 1984: 68)

Besides, to read about a character is to imagine and create a character in reading: it is to create a person. Reading character involves learning to a knowledge that a person can never finally be singular-that there is multiplicity and ambiguity from start to finish. (Bennett, 1999: 70)

Every works use characters to serve it story. As stated by Potter (1967: 7) “characters are basic element in much imaginative literature and therefore, they limit the considerable attention paid to them”.

The existence of character is very important in all literary works since characters are the soul of fiction. Character in a story or fiction will be able to change it to be alive and interesting as in a real life. As we know, a literary work is an imitation of reality; story, setting, and event experienced by characters are almost same with characters in fiction, not real. They are only illusion created by the author. Author can tell us, if they wish, exactly what is going on in a character’s mind and exactly what the character feels. In real life we can only guess at these inner thoughts and feelings from person’s external behavior, which may be designed to conceal what is going on inside. In another, we can also vie their inner life in a way that is impossible to us in ordinary life.

According to Holman “Character usually has his or her own qualities as described by the author. The character cooked is young or old person, bad or good, mannered person, handsome or beautiful, etc. All of them depend on the author who consider them as one element that could help to serve the stories. A character usually is the imitation of real person’s personality. Sometimes he has similar personality to that of human being. As the following :

A character is a brief descriptive sketch of a personage who typifies some definite quality. The person is described not as an individualized personality but as an example of some vice or virtue type as a busy, a supercilious fellow (Holman, 1980: 443).

There are so many kinds of character in a story, but they have a different function dealing with the whole story. From the viewed of the function and stages in a story, character that often appear or dominate a big part of story, or the opposite, character that appear once or twice, or short relatively.

Character is divided into two, they are: “main character and peripheral character”. Perrine states that a main character has the dominant traits in the whole story. Peripheral character is an additional character. Mostly the main character always appear in the story and relates to others. Interpretative fiction does not necessarily renounce the attractive central character. It simply furnishes a greater variety of central characters, characters that are less easily labeled and pigeonholed, characters that are sometimes unsympathetic. Human nature is not often entirely bad or perfectly good, and interpretative fiction deals usually with characters that are neither. Immature readers demand the main character is easily identified and clearly labelled as a good or bad. They also demand the main character always be an attractive one.

If the main character is male, he does not need to be perfect, but must be ordinarily fundamentally decent-honest, good-hearted, and prefeably good looking. If the main character is not virtuous, he must have strong compensatory qualities, he must be daring, dashing, or gallant. They must not be so complex as to tax his understanding. In the same source, Perrine also states (1966: 83) that.

“ The character may defy law and order only if the character has a tender heart , a great love, or a gentle man’s code”.

Perrine states (1984: 68), in proportion to the fullness of their development, the characters in a story are relatively flat or round. “Flat characters are characterized by one or two trait; they can be summed up in a sentence. Round characters are complex and has many sides. They might require an essay for full analysis.”

Both types of character can have the vitality that good fiction demands. Round character live by their very roundness, by the many points at which they touch life. Flat characters, though they touch life at only one or two points, may be made memorable in the hands of an expert author through some individualizing detail of appearance, gesture, or speech. In good fiction all characters are characterized fully enough to justify their roles in the story and make them convincing

Characters in a story experience conflict, to be exact, whether internal and external conflict. It will increase and develop into top of conflict in climax. The character will change after climax, but not all of them, all fictional characters may be classified as static or developing. As stated by Perrine (1984: 70), character is classified into two types, they are: “static or developing (dynamic) character. “The static character is the same sort of person at the end of the story as at the beginning. The developing (dynamic) character undergoes a permanent change in same aspect of character, personality, or outlook”.



### 3.2 Conflict

In the development of the content in the story, conflict is composed from several events and incidents befall the characters that are involved in a story. Therefore, conflict is the most important element in the story because with its existences, the writer will understand how the story goes on and without conflict the story can not be formed.

Perrine states that: “There is conflict in a chess game, where the competitors sit quite still for hours, as surely as in a wrestling match; emotional conflict may be raging within a person sitting in an empty room. It occurs because of the differences between two opposite things such as aims, principle, opinion, etc.

Generally conflict is well known as a clash between two opposing people or community, or event wills and desires in one person. The conflict may be physical, mental, emotional, or moral. It is natural situation for it is known that human always have problems.

The existence of conflict in literary work is caused by action. It happens in character’s life in a story, whether internal and external conflict. Conflict is divided into two categories as the following:

Conflict is a clash of actions, ideas, desires, or wills”. Character may be pitted against some other person or group of persons (conflict of person against person); they may be in conflict with some external force-physical nature, society, or “fate” (conflict of person against environment); or they may be in conflict with some elements in their own natures (conflict of person against himself or herself). The conflict may be physical, mental, emotional, or moral (Perrine, 1984: 42).

The statement above explains that conflict is divided into two, they are internal and external conflict. Internal conflict is a conflict with some elements in their own natures, such as person against himself or herself. While external conflict is a conflict which may be pitted against other person or group of person; it may be conflict with external force, physical nature, society, or environment. Wellek and Warren ( 1989 : 85 ) say that conflict is something dramatic, referring to a fight between two powers that balance and it also referring an action and revenge of action. It happen in human's outlook, not in literary works, that's why, people prefer to live in peace and avoid the conflict.

### **3.3 Setting**

In the narrow sense, setting means particular place and particular time or condition in which the action takes place. Setting refers to the natural and scenery or environment in which the characters live and move in the story.

In a novel, setting also important to make a good story beside conflict. Setting usually describes and explains about the story takes place. Setting can be divided into three, they are setting of place, setting of time, and setting of social. According to Abrams, Setting is the center which direct to the place, time relation, and social circles, where events happen in the story (1981: 175).

In addition, Nurgiantoro (1994: 227-233) classifies setting into three types as follow:

### 1. Setting of Place

It's the description of place or location where actions of the story take place. The place aspect can be in the form of places with certain names, initials, or without clear names. Through this setting we can see society's tradition values, behaviour, condition, and so on that effect the character.

### 2. Setting of Time

It's the description of when the actions happen. It's connected to the factual time, which can be related, or has relation to historical event. It can be presented in the form of day, date, month, year or certain period.

### 3. Setting of Social

This kind of setting which is related to the social life of a society in a certain place described in a fiction. It can be taken a form of custom, manner, tradition ways of life, thought and behaviour, social status of the character, etc.

## 3.4 Theme

Perrine (1984: 92) states that “ The theme of fiction is its controlling idea or its central insight. It is the unifying generalization about life stated or implied by the story. Perrine also states, Theme in a fiction may be more than one interpretation but it can be concluded to the major theme that is a theme will resume the whole story. It is the reason why the reader sometimes difficult to

determine theme in a story since there are two kinds of theme, major and minor theme. As stated by Nurgiyantoro (2010: 82-83), “the theme is divided into two forms: they are major and minor themes. Major theme is the essential meaning that can be a basic idea in literary work. It is implied in somewhat of the story. Minor theme is the supporting theme. It is only implied in a part of the story”.

Discovering and stating the theme of a story is often a delicate task. Sometimes we will feel what the story is about strongly enough and yet find it difficult to put this feeling into words. The ability to state theme, moreover, is a test of our understanding of a story. Occasionally the theme of a story may be expressed as a moral principle without doing violence to the story. More frequently, however, the word “moral” is too narrow to fit the kind of illumination provided by a first rate story. It is hardly suitable, for instance, for the kind of story that simply displays human character. Such nouns as moral, lesson, and message are therefore best avoided in the discussion of fiction.

According to Perrine (1984: 92), in stating theme we must pick the central insight, the one that explains the greatest number of elements in the story and relates them to each other. It is the unifying generalization about life stated or implied by the story. To derive a theme in the story, we must determine what central purpose is: what views of life supports or what insight into life it reveals.

Further more about theme, according to Perrine (1984: 97 - 98), there are 6 principles of themes, they are:

1. The theme should be expressible in the form of a statement with a subject and predicate. It is insufficient to say that the theme of a story

is motherhood or loyalty to country. Theme must be a statement about the subject.

2. The theme should be stated as a generalization about life. In stating theme we do not use the names of the character or refer to precise places, events, for to do so is to make specific rather than a general statement.
3. We must be careful not to make a generalization larger than is justified by the terms of the story. Term like *every*, *all*, *always* must be used very cautiously. Terms like *some*, *sometimes*, *may* be often more accurate.
4. Theme is the *central* and *unifying* concept of a story. Therefore (a) It accounts for all the major details of the story. If we can not explain the bearing of an important incident or characters on the theme, either in exemplifying it or modifying in it some way, it is probable that our interpretation is partial and incomplete, that at best we have got hold only of sub theme. (b) The theme is not contradicted by any detail of the story. If we have to look or blink at or “force” the meaning of some significant detail in order to frame statement, we may be sure that our statement is defective. (c) The theme can not rely upon supposed facts-facts not actually stated or clearly implied by story. The statement of it must be based on data of the story itself, not on assumptions supplied from our own experience.

5. There is no *one* way of stating the theme of a story. The story is not a guessing game or an acrostic that is supposed to yield to magic verbal formula that won't work if a syllable is changed. Here, for instance, are three possible ways of stating the theme of Miss Brill; (a) a person living alone may create a protective fantasy life by dramatizing insignificant activities, but such a life can be jeopardized when she is forced to see herself as others see her. (b) Isolated elderly people, unsupported by a network of family and friends, may make satisfying adjustment through a fantasy life, but when their fantasy are punctured by the role call of reality, the effect can be devastating. (c) Loneliness is a pitiable emotional state that may be avoided by refusing to acknowledge that one feels lonely, though such may also require one to create unrealistic fantasies about oneself.
6. We should avoid any statement that reduces the theme to some familiar saying that we have heard all our lives. Although such statement *may* express the theme accurately, too often it is simply a lazy shortcut that impoverishes the essential meaning of the story in order to save mental effort.

## CHAPTER IV

### DISCUSSION

In this chapter the writer presents the analysis of *the Five People You Meet in Heaven* based on the intrinsic elements theories that the writer uses; they are character, conflict, setting, and theme.

#### 4.1 General Description of Eddie as the Main Character

The main character of the story is Edward. He is usually called Eddie. He is a maintenance worker who works at Ruby Pier. He comes from a lower class. Eddie spent his life at Ruby Pier, an amusement park by a Great Gray Ocean. This is also a place where Eddie killed by an accident. He is squat, white-haired, a short neck, a barrel chest, thick fore-arms, and a faded army tattoo on his right shoulder. He uses a cane to get around. His legs are thin and veined now, and his left knee, wounded in war and is ruined by arthritis. He wears rubber-soled shoes and an old linen cap. The physical description of Eddie can be seen from the following quotation :

“Eddie was a squat, white-haired old man, with a short neck, a barrel chest, thick forearms, and a faded army tattoo on his right shoulder. His legs were thin and veined now, and his left knee, wounded in the war, was ruined by arthritis. He used a cane to get around. His face was broad and craggy from the sun, with salty whiskers and a lower jaw that protruded slightly, making him look prouder than he felt.” (Albom, 2003: 2).

Meanwhile the characteristic of Eddie can be stated as follow:

#### **4.1.1 Fearfull**

Eddie is not a brave person. He gets frightened easily. For example when he wakes up in a teacup. It is a part of amusement park, the Ruby Pier of his childhood, some 75 years old ago. Here Eddie meets Blue Man. He is the person who Eddie meets in heaven. He tells Eddie about life, but Eddie just look tired and being silent. He feels frightened, his frighten shows on his face. He really doesn't know who is Blue Man. He suddenly appears in Eddie's life and Eddie never guesses before who he is. It shows in quotation below.

“DON'T BE AFRAID. . . .” THE BLUE MAN said, rising slowly from his chair. "Don't be afraid. . . ."

His voice was soothing, but Eddie could only stare. He had barely known this man. Why was he seeing him now? He was like one of those faces that pops into your dreams and the next morning you say, "You'll never guess who I dreamed about last night." (Albom, 2003: 32)

“There are five people you meet in heaven,” the Blue Man suddenly said. “ each of us was in your life for a reason. You may not have known the reason at that time, and that is what heaven is for. For understanding your life on earth.” Eddie coughed , trying to bring up his . He was tired of being silent.” (Albom, 2003: 35)

The quotation above shows when Eddie meets Blue Man in heaven and he says to Eddie that there are five people he met in heaven and each of them has a reason and teach him a lesson about life.



#### 4.1.2 Responsible

Eddie is a responsible person. It can be seen when he talks to Blue Man about his death. Blue Man says that his death is caused by Eddie himself, when he plays ball and cross the street. They argue about it. Eddie says that he has to pay for his sin. Eddie is really feel guilty and admit that it is his mistake. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“Please, mister ...” Eddie pleaded. “ i didn’t know. Believ me . . . God help me I dind’t know.” The Blue Man nodded. “ You couldn’t know. You were too young.” “but now i gotta pay,” he said. “to pay?” “for my sin. That’s way i’m here, right? Justice?” Eddie shook his head. “We were throwing a *ball*. It was *my* stupidity, running out there like that. Why should *you* have to die on account of *me*? It ain’t *fair*.” (Albom, 2003: 48).

#### 4.1.3 Understanding

One day in Captain’s burial ground after Eddie knows about Captain’s sacrifice. Captain tells about sacrifice in his experience as a soldier. He tells Eddie that he sacrifices his life to others in the war. Captain admits that he shoots his legs and that is the way Captain helps him and he says that Eddy lost something but he get something as well. He just don’t know it before. He thinks about what Captain said and has given up. Eddie offers his hand and Captain grips it tightly.

“The Captain turned. "I shot you, all right," he said, "and you lost something, but you gained something as well. You just don't know it yet. I gained something, too." "What?" "I got to keep my promise. I didn't leave you behind. "He held out his palm. "Forgive me about the leg? "Eddie thought for a moment. He thought about the bitterness after his wounding, his anger at all he had given up. Then he thought of what the Captain had given up and he felt ashamed. He offered his hand. The Captain gripped it tightly.” (Albom, 2003: 94).

#### **4.1.4 Patriotic**

When his country in war, Eddie feels that he has to enlist himself into it. He, with his brave feeling, joins the army in the war. He directly registers himself, and becomes a part of those soldier in war. It shows in quotation below:

“ When his country entered the war, Eddie woke up early one rainy morning, shaved, combed back his hair, and enlisted. Others were fighting. He would, too. But he wanted out, and he wanted revenge. He ground his jaws and he slapped his palm and he thought about all the fights he'd been in back in his old neighborhood, the time he'd sent two kids to the hospital with a garbage can lid. He pictured what he'd do to these guards if they didn't have guns.”(Albom, 2003: 57–68)

#### **4.1.5 Kind**

When Eddy's father gets sick and has to stay in hospital, he replaces his father's job. He helps out and works at the Pier, greasing the tracks, checking the breake pads, and testing the levers. Meanwhile he has to work in taxi job, even he repairs broken ride parts in the shop. He gives the money to his mother and goes to the hospital everyday and sleeps there. He cleans her mother's apartment with his wife. What he does is just to save his father's job. It shows in quotation below:

“In his father's absence, Eddie helped out at the pier, working evenings after his taxi job, greasing the tracks, checking the brake pads, testing the levers, even repairing broken ride parts in the shop. What he really was doing was protecting his father's job. The owners acknowledged his efforts, then paid him half of what his father earned. He gave the money to his mother, who went to the hospital every day and slept there most nights. Eddie and Marguerite cleaned her apartment and shopped for her food.” (Albom, 2003: 125)

#### **4.1.6 Respectful**

Eddie and Ruby are so intimate. They meet in heaven. They meet in an amusement park. Ruby tells Eddie about her life and an amusement park where Eddie and his father work. He is the owner of Ruby Pier, the third person Eddie meets in heaven. Ruby tells about her regret in building the Ruby Pier. She lost her fortune and raises her three children in a small flat with her husband. She lives alone after her husband died. When Ruby tells about it Eddie just silent and looks at the sky and Eddie says that whoever has built Ruby Pier has done something else with his money. He says sorry about this. It shows in quotation below:

“THE OLD WOMAN sat in silence. Eddie studied the vast jade sky. He thought about how many times he had wished this same thing, that whoever had built Ruby Pier had done something else with his money. "I'm sorry about your husband," Eddie said, mostly because he didn't know what else to say. The old woman smiled. "Thank you, dear. But we lived many years beyond those flames. We raised three children. Emile was sickly, in and out of the hospital. He left me a widow in my fifties. You see this face, these wrinkles?" She turned her cheeks upward. "I earned every one of them.” (Albom, 2003: 122–123).

#### **4.1.7 Emotional**

One day in heaven when Eddie meets Captain and they talk about war. Captain tells about his principles. How to keep principle idea in war. Suddenly Captain said about Eddie's legs. Captain tells that his legs was shot by him. Eddie shocks and gets angry. Eddie pushes Captain and shakes him. It shows that Eddie is an emotional person and easily angry. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“WHY? YOU BASTARD! You bastard! Not you! WHY?" They were grappling now on the muddy earth. Eddie straddled the Captain's chest, pummeling him with blows to the face. The Captain

did not bleed. Eddie shook him by the collar and banged his skull against the mud. The Captain did not blink. Instead, he rolled from side to side with each punch, allowing Eddie his rage. Finally, with one arm, he grabbed Eddie and flipped him over”. (Albom, 2003: 87).

#### **4.1.8 Pious**

Eddy is a religious man. It can be seen when he becomes a prisoner. He always prays to God because he wants to meet Marguerite. Eddie misses Marguerite so much. He believes that by saying to God he is able to meet Marguerite and live together with her. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“For the first few months of this captivity, Eddie went to sleep with Marguerite's picture in his helmet propped up in front of him. He wasn't much for praying, but he prayed just the same, making up the words and keeping count each night, saying, "Lord, I'll give you these six days if you give me six days with her. . . . I'll give you these nine days if I get nine days with her. . . . I'll give you these sixteen days if I get sixteen days with her. . . .” (Albom, 2003: 69).

#### **4.1.9 Patient**

Eddie is a patient man. It can be seen when he has to work at Ruby Pier for a long time and his father always tells him to learn how to be patient. Eddie shows this when he replaces his father's works at Ruby Pier even he loss one of his leg. Eddie works good and patiently. It shows in quotation below:

“When Eddie was a teenager, if he ever complained or seemed bored with the pier, his father would snap, "What? This ain't good enough for you?" And later, when he'd suggested Eddie take a job there after high school, Eddie almost laughed, and his father again said, "What? This ain't good enough for you?" And before Eddie went to war, when he'd talked of marrying Marguerite and becoming an engineer, his father said, "What? This ain't good enough for you?" And now, despite all that, here he was, at the pier, doing his father's labor.” (Albom, 2003: 125).

#### 4.1.10 Forgiveness

Eddie is a forgiving person. It can be seen when he sees his father in heaven. He regrets what he did and starts to talk gently to him. He tries to realize the characteristics of his father with less understanding about his father. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“Eddie felt tears welling. He felt a shaking in his chest. Something was flushing out of him. "You beat me. You shut me out. I didn't understand. I still don't understand. Why did you do it? Why?" He drew in long painful breaths. "I didn't know, OK? I didn't know your life, what happened. I didn't *know* you. But you're my father. I'll let it go now, all right? All right? Can we let it go? His voice wobbled until it was high and wailing, not his own anymore. "OK? YOU HEAR ME?" he screamed. Then softer: "You hear me? Dad?" (Albom, 2003: 144).

#### 4.1.11 Loyal

This is the moment when Eddie meets Marguerite in heaven. Marguerite tells Eddie about love after her death. He lost her love and he lives alone after Marguerite's death. He feels alone when Marguerite leaves him. Eddie doesn't love anybody else. He never wants anyone else. He still love her even she died. It shows that Eddie is a loyal person. It shows in quotation below.

“Eddie thought about the years after he buried his wife. It was like looking over a fence. He was aware of another kind of life out there, even as he knew he would never be a part of it. "I never wanted anyone else," he said quietly. "I know," she said. "I was still in love with you." "I know." She nodded. "I felt it. "Here?" he asked. "Even here," she said, smiling. "That's how strong lost love can be."” (Albom, 2003: 173–174).

#### **4.1.12 Honest**

There is a moment when he was in a journey. Eddie meets Marguerite, Ruby, Captain, Blue Man, Tala, even to himself. He always tells the truth what he feels about his life and his death. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“Eddie sobbed, a final vacant sob, as if his chest were empty. He had surrendered all barriers; there was no grownup-to-child talk anymore. He said what he always said, to Marguerite, to Ruby, to the Captain, to the Blue Man, and, more than anyone, to himself. I was sad because i didn’t do anything with my life. I was nothing. I accomplished nothing. I was lost i felt like i wasn’t supposed to be there.” (Albom, 2003: 191).

#### **4.1.13 Innocent**

It is the moment after Eddie knows about his death. When Eddie meets Tala in heaven, she is the last person he meets in heaven. She is an Asian Girl. She is about five or six years old. She tells about Eddie’s death and the hands that Eddie grapped. Eddie feels like an innocent person, because all of his paint are gone. He feels nothing, his soul is like a baby and innocently he realizes and flies with Tala to heaven. It shows in quotation below:

“His grip was still entwined with Tala's, but he felt his body being washed from his soul, meat from the bone, and with it went all the pain and weariness he ever held inside him, every scar, every wound, every bad memory. He was nothing now, a leaf in the water, and she pulled him gently, through shadow and light, through shades of blue and ivory and lemon and black, and he realized all these colors, all along, were the emotions of his life. She drew him up through the breaking waves of a great gray ocean and he emerged in brilliant light above an almost unimaginable scene.” (Albom, 2003: 193).

#### 4.1.14 Clever

Eddie is a clever person. He can learn everything, for example when he was in a war. He can learn how to ride a tank, take prisoner, shoot from a foxhole, and cross a rop bridge. He learns many things, while he was just a new soldier. He realize the fight will not stop at one battle. It shows in quotation below:

“EDDIE LEARNED MANY things during the war. He learned to ride atop a tank. He learned to shave with cold water in his helmet. He learned to be careful when shooting from a foxhole, lest he hit a tree and wound himself with deflected shrapnel. He learned to smoke. He learned to march. He learned to cross a rope bridge while carrying, all at once, an overcoat, a radio, a carbine, a gas mask, a tripod for a machine gun, a backpack, and several bandoliers on his shoulder. He learned how to drink the worst coffee he'd ever tasted. He learned a few words in a few foreign languages. He learned to spit a great distance. He learned the nervous cheer of a soldier's first survived combat, when the men slap each other and smile as if it's over—We can go home now!—and he learned the sinking depression of a soldier's second combat, when he realizes the fighting does not stop at one battle, there is more and more after that.. . . . .” (Albom, 2003: 62–64).

#### 4.1.15 Smart

Eddie is described as a smart person. It is showed when he and Captain want to escape from prison. At that time Eddie saw the Crazy Three which tried to juggle but he can't. Suddenly he got ideas. Eddie tells Captain to prepare. He told him that he can play it. Then Eddie play juggling while fool the Crazy Three and Eddie give a sign to escape. Several minutes later Eddie grabs rocks and whips it into the face of those Crazy and breaks their noses. Finally they can escape from that place. It shows in quotation below:

“Eddie, covered in black ash, looked up, annoyed at the thudding noise. He'd been trying to sleep. But now he lifted himself slowly. His vision cleared. He felt his nerves pricking to life."Captain . . ." he

whispered. "You ready to move?" The Captain raised his head. "What're you thinking?" "Them rocks." Eddie nodded toward the guard. "What about 'em?" the Captain said. "I can juggle," Eddie whispered. The Captain squinted. "What?" "But Eddie was already yelling at the guard, "Hey! Yo! You're doing it wrong!" He made a circular motion with his palms. "This way! You do it this way! Gimme!" He held out his hands. "I can juggle. Gimme." (Albom, 2003: 72–75)

Eddie belongs to round and dynamic character. He is a complex person. He has various features in some aspects. He always think he can find another job and build another kind of life. He always tries to change his life but the war comes and his plans never happened. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“Many times he had longed to leave this place, find different work, build another kind of life. But the war came. His plans never worked out. In time, he found himself graying and wearing looser pants and in a state of weary acceptance, that this was who he was and who he would always be, a man with grilled frankfurters.” (Albom, 2003: 5)

“He reeled back to throw a punch, but Eddie moved on instinct and grabbed his father's arm mid-swing. The old man's eyes widened. This was the first time Eddie had ever defended himself, the first time he had ever done anything besides receive a beating as if he deserved it. His father looked at his own clenched fist, short of its mark, and his nostrils flared and his teeth gritted and he staggered backward and yanked his arm free.” (Albom, 2003: 109)

The quotation above shows that Eddie belongs to round character. It shows that Eddie has differentiated features, when Eddie defends and grabs himself in the first time from his father's arm mid-swing. Meanwhile Eddie never do it before.

Eddie is a dynamic character. He changed his character, personality, or outlook after he comes back from the war. It changes some of his characters, personality and his out look. It can be seen from the following quotation:



“In time, he found himself graying and wearing looser pants and in a state of weary acceptance, that this was who he was and who he would always be, a man with grilled frankfurters. The darkness of combat had left Eddie changed. He stayed indoors. He rarely spoke, even to Marguerite. He spent hours staring out the kitchen window, watching the carousel ride, rubbing his bad knee..”(Albom, 2003: 5-108)

“His legs were thin and veined now, and his left knee, wounded in the war, was ruined by arthritis. He used a cane to get around. His face was broad and craggy from the sun, with salty whiskers and a lower jaw that protruded slightly, making him look prouder than he felt.” (Albom, 2003: 2)

The quotation above shows that Eddie undergoes change because the war. The change which is changed the whole of his life. The change that makes Eddie regrets his life.

## **4.2 Conflict**

### **4.2.1 Internal Conflict**

#### **4.2.1.1 Eddie Against Himself**

Eddie feels his life waste when Eddie meets Blue Man in heaven. Blue Man pulls Eddie close. They talk about death. When Blue Man has to leave, Eddie says and pulls back. Eddie asks about the last time he helps and saves the child. Eddie asks, can he save the little girl? Blue Man doesn't answer it. Eddie feels his death is waste. It shows in quotation below:

“I'm leaving,” the Blue Man whispered in his ear. “this step of heaven is over for me . But there are others for you to meet.” Just tell me one thing. Did I save the little girl? At the pier. Did I save her?" The Blue Man did not answer. Eddie slumped. "Then my death was a waste, just like my life.” “No life is a waste,” the Blue Man said. “ the only time we waste is the time we spend thinking we are alone.”(Albom, 2003: 50)

This is the moment after Eddie is mixed up in conflict with his father. Eddie feels so sad and regrets. It shows when Eddie go back home from the hospital after the war. His father compulse and throw him to get a job and Eddie strive against him. At that time his father never talk again with Eddie until oneday his father dead. Eddie realize that he still need his father's care and love even in the heaven. He just slumps and lean on a stainless steel wall and drops into a snowbank. He feels so sad and regrets with this moment. It shows in quotation below:

“He never spoke to his son again. This was the final handprint on Eddie's glass. Silence. It haunted their remaining years. His father was silent when Eddie moved into his own apartment, silent when Eddie took a cab-driving job, silent at Eddie's wedding, silent when Eddie came to visit his mother. She begged and wept and beseeched her husband to change his mind, to let it go, but Eddie's father would only say to her, through a clenched jaw, what he said to others who made the same request: "That boy raised a hand to me." And that was the end of the conversation. All parents damage their children. This was their life together. Neglect. Violence. Silence. And now, someplace beyond death, Eddie slumped against a stainless steel wall and dropped into a snowbank, stung again by the denial of a man whose love, almost inexplicably, he still coveted, a man ignoring him, even in heaven. His father. The damage done.” (Albom, 2003: 109-110)

Eddie feels regrets. It shows when Eddie thinks for along time after he talks with Ruby. Ruby tells about his father when he works at Ruby. She tells what Eddie doesn't know about his father's death. After knowing that Eddie moves haltingly turns to his father's right on the corner booth. He whispers “dad”. He feels a choke and he drops his knees alongside the booth. He looks at his own arms and realize in his earthly body. He feels tears welling. He knows

what happens now, he asks to let it all go. He regrets what he thinks about his father. It shows in quotation below:

“ "Dad?" Eddie whispered. His father could not hear him. Eddie drew closer. "Dad. I know what happened now. "He felt a choke in his chest. He dropped to his knees alongside the booth. His father was so close that Eddie could see the whiskers on his face and the frayed end of his cigar. He saw the baggy lines beneath his tired eyes, the bent nose, the bony knuckles and squared shoulders of a workingman. He looked at his own arms and realized, in his earthly body, he was now older than his father. He had outlived him in every way. "I was angry with you, Dad. I hated you. "Eddie felt tears welling. (Albom, 2003: 143–144)

One day in heaven when Eddie meets Captain. Eddie feels angry and wants to the revenge. He always ground his jaws and slaps his palm when he thinks about the last time in his life. He pictures what he had do to those guards if they don't have guns when he becomes prisoner. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“Years of waiting at the pier—for a ride to finish, for the waves to pull back, for his father to speak to him—had trained Eddie in the art of patience. But he wanted out, and he wanted revenge. He ground his jaws and he slapped his palm and he thought about all the fights he'd been in back in his old neighborhood, the time he'd sent two kids to the hospital with a garbage can lid. He pictured what he'd do to these guards if they didn't have guns. Then one morning, the prisoners were awakened by screaming and flashing bayonets and the four Crazies had them up and bound and led down into a shaft.” (Albom, 2003: 68)

When Eddie meets Captain, they talk about Eddie's legs. Captain tells Eddie about his legs. Captain tells that Eddie lost his blood. The bullet has been never fully removed from his legs. He will be left with the limp. After knowing that Eddie feels that his life is never be the same . He feels the things seems silly

or pointless. He feels desperate about it. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“You remember anything about how you got out of there?” he asked. “Not really,” Eddie said. “It took two days. You were in and out of consciousness. You lost a lot of blood.” “We made it though,” Eddie said. “Yaaaah.” The Captain drew the word out and punctuated it with a sigh. “That bullet got you pretty good.” In truth, the bullet had never been fully removed. It had cut through several nerves and tendons and shattered against a bone, fracturing it vertically. Eddie had two surgeries. Neither cured the problem. The doctors said he'd be left with a limp, one likely to get worse with age as the misshapen bones deteriorated. “The best we can do,” he was told. Was it? Who could say? All Eddie knew was that he'd awoken in a medical unit and his life was never the same. His running was over. His dancing was over. Worse, for some reason, the way he used to feel about things was over, too. He withdrew. Things seemed silly or pointless. War had crawled inside of Eddie, in his leg and in his soul. He learned many things as a soldier. He came home a different man.” (Albom, 2003: 84–85).

After Eddie sees Robozzo that is killed by the guards when they are in the prison, he sees Robozzo's body is being lifted in its feet and dragged it along the floor. It leaves a trail of wet blood which seems like spilt oil. After that Eddie stops praying to God and counting days. Eddie looks so disconsolate. He and Captain only think how to escape from this place. It shows in quotation below:

“But Crazy Two waved the gun and yelled again and Crazy Three and Crazy Four slowly lifted Rabozzo's body by its feet and dragged it along the mine floor, leaving a trail of wet blood, which, in the darkness, looked like spilt oil. They dropped him against a wall, next to a pickax. After that, Eddie stopped praying. He stopped counting days. He and the Captain spoke only of escaping before they all met the same fate. The Captain figured the enemy war effort was desperate, that was why they needed every half-dead prisoner to scrape coal. Each day in the mine there were fewer and fewer bodies. At night, Eddie heard bombing; it seemed to be getting closer. If things got too bad, the Captain figured, their captors would bail out, destroy everything. He had seen ditches dug beyond the prisoner barracks and large oil barrels positioned up the steep hill. The oil's for

burning the evidence," the Captain whispered. "They're digging our graves." (Albom, 2003: 71)

Eddy remembers the time in war that makes his legs broken. He is haunted by that time. In this condition Eddie feels so sad. He feels hurt with the mistake that changes the whole of his life. It shows in quotation below:

"Eddie let go and fell back exhausted. His arms ached. His head was spinning. For so many years, he had been haunted by that one moment, that one mistake, when his whole life changed." (Albom, 2003: 88)

In another occasion, Eddie meets Tala on the River. Eddie sees Tala who is playing on the River. She is a little Asian girl. She is about five or six years old. Eddie is often hear children's voice but hers is different from others. She points to Eddie's shirt pocket and asks Eddie to make the twist dog from the pipe cleaners. After Eddie done it suddenly Tala says that Eddie has burned her. She tells about her death. Eddie shocks and lowers his voice. His words slow and deliberate. He feels so sad and suddenly the images of soldier go through his head. It is the condition that makes Eddie feels regret. It shows in quotation below:

"The darkness that had shadowed him all those years was revealing itself at last, it was real, flesh and blood, this child, this lovely child, he had killed her, burned her to death, the bad dreams he'd suffered, he'd deserved every one. He *had* seen something! That shadow in the flame! Death by his hand! *By his own fiery hand!* A flood of tears soaked through his fingers and his soul seemed to plummet. His body convulsed, and his head jerked wildly, until the howling gave way to prayerlike utterances, every word expelled in the breathless surge of confession: "I killed you, I KILLED YOU," then a whispered "forgive me," then, "FORGIVE ME, OH, GOD . . ." and finally, "What have I done . . . *WHAT HAVE I DONE?* . . ." (Albom, 2003: 188-189).

When Eddie meets Tala, he is being told that he burned her till dead. Eddie shocks and weeps her crying. He kneels on a mat. He feels so sad and regrets. It shows in quotation below:

“He wept and he wept, until the weeping drained him to a shiver. Then he shook silently, swaying back and forth. He was kneeling on a mat before the little dark-haired girl, who played with her pipe-cleaner animal along the bank of the flowing river.” (Albom, 2003: 189)

When Captain talks about a war with Eddie, he tells about Eddie’s leg that he is the man who shoots his leg. Eddie screams and seeth. He gets angry and haunted about that because this is the mistake that changes the whole of his life. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“Eddie felt a final surge of rage and grabbed the Captain by the collar. He pulled him close. He saw the teeth stained yellow by tobacco. "My . . . leggggg!" Eddie seethed. "My life!" "I took your leg," the Captain said, quietly, "to save your life." Eddie let go and fell back exhausted. His arms ached. His head was spinning. For so many years, he had been haunted by that one moment, that one mistake, when his whole life changed.” (Albom, 2003: 87–88)

In a restaurant where he spends many hours there and enjoying the day. He walks up the snowy and looks some people who eat pie there. One step closer Eddie’s eyes moves along to the last booth in the right hand corner and he looks the figure inside the booth that reminds him about someone in his life. He howls over and over but the figure obviously doesn’t hear it. Eddie yells and bangs until the glass will break. He screams and he feels angry with this. His anger showed on his face when he calls his father loudly and his father can not hear. It shows in quotation below:

“NO,” HE HEARD himself whisper. He turned back from the door. He drew deep breaths. His heart pounded. He spun around and looked again, then banged wildly on the windowpanes. “No!” Eddie yelled. “No! No!” He banged until he was sure the glass would break. “No!” He kept yelling until the word he wanted, a word he hadn’t spoken in decades, finally formed in his throat. He screamed that word then—he screamed it so loudly that his head throbbed. But the figure inside the booth remained hunched over, oblivious, one hand resting on the table, the other holding a cigar, never looking up, no matter how many times Eddie howled it, over and over again: “Dad! Dad! Dad!” (Albom, 2003: 100–101).

Eddie feels sad when he meets Marguerite and tells about his last time before he is dead. Marguerite is his wife and the fourth person Eddie meets in heaven. Eddie tells about his death, the Pier and the child when he wants to help. Eddie just looks at Marguerite’s face and drops his head into his hands. Eddie feels he lost Marguerite and he misses her so much. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“Nothing about his death or the park or the crowd he had yelled at to “Get Back!” why was he talking about this? What was he doing? Was he really with her? Like a hidden grieving that rises to grab the heart, his soul was ambushed with old emotions, and his lips began to tremble and he was swept into the current of all that he had lost. He was looking at his, his dead wife, his young wife, his missing wife, his only wife, and he didn’t want to look anymore. He dropped his head into his hands and he said it anyhow, he said what everyone says. “he missed you so much.” (Albom, 2003: 159)

In the wedding, Eddie finds himself in an Italian village. Several minutes later Eddie hear a bridesmaid’s voice. She offers sweets to Eddie but Eddie shocks that she is his wife, Marguerite. Eddie stared at her, she looks like younger than she did. Eddie didn’t believe it and he says “It isn’t you” and Eddie begins to cry

for the first time since his death. He disappointed with Marguerite. It shows in quotation below:

“He dropped to his knees. "Marguerite . . ." he whispered. "For the bitter and the sweet," she said. EDDIE STARED AT the young Marguerite. "It's not you," he said. She lowered her almond basket. She smiled sadly. The tarantella was dancing behind them and the sun was fading behind a ribbon of white clouds. "It's not you," Eddie said again. The dancers yelled, "Hooheyy!" They banged tambourines. She offered her hand. Eddie reached for it quickly, instinctively, as if grabbing for a falling object. Their fingers met and he had never felt such a sensation, as if flesh were forming over his own flesh, soft and warm and almost ticklish. She knelt down beside him. "It's not you," he said. "It is me," she whispered. Hooheyy! "It's not you, it's not you, it's not you," Eddie mumbled, as he dropped his head onto her shoulder and, for the first time since his death, began to cry.” (Albom, 2003: 150–154).

When the nurse tells Eddie about the sad news. She says that his father has died. After knowing that Eddie doesn't believe and feels the empty kind of anger. He is often imagine his father in a heroic death of his life but there is nothing heroic about it. It shows in quotation below:

“When the news came that his father had died—"slipped away," a nurse told him, as if he had gone out for milk—Eddie felt the emptiest kind of anger, the kind that circles in its cage. Like most workingmen's sons, Eddie had envisioned for his father a heroic death to counter the commonness of his life. There was nothing heroic about a drunken stupor by the beach. The next day, he went to his parents' apartment, entered their bedroom, and opened all the drawers, as if he might find a piece of his father inside.” (Albom, 2003: 126–127).

#### **4.2.2 External Conflict**

##### **4.2.2.1 Eddie Against Blue Man**

Eddie has conflict with Blue Man. When he meets Blue Man and talks about his death. Blue Man is the first person who meets in heaven. His real name



is Joseph Corvelchik. He comes from a small town in Polandia. Eddie is still younger when he meets Blue Man. Eddie has argued with Blue Man. Eddie argues about Blue Man and his death which suddenly appears in Eddie's life. It can be seen from the following quotation:

"What . . . killed . . ."  
 The Blue Man waited patiently.  
 "What . . . killed . . . you?"  
 The Blue Man looked a bit surprised. He smiled at Eddie.  
 "You did," he said. LISTEN, MISTER," EDDIE rasped, "I never killed you, OK? I don't even *know* you." The Blue Man sat on a bench. He smiled as if trying to put a guest at ease. Eddie remained standing, a defensive posture.." (Albom, 2003: 39).

This is when Eddie arrives in heaven. Eddie shocked when he meets Blue Man and Blue Man said that this is heaven. Eddie doesn't belief that he was in heaven. They have argued about it. Eddie shakes his head violently, as if he wants to against Blue Man. It can be seen from the following quotation:

"Where do you think?" the Blue Man asked. "Heaven."NO! EDDIE SHOOK his head violently. NO! The Blue Man seemed amused. "No? It can't be heaven?" he said. "Why? Because this is where you grew up? "Eddie mouthed the word Yes. "Ah." The Blue Man nodded. "Well. People often belittle the place where they were born. But heaven can be found in the most unlikely corners. And heaven itself has many steps. This, for me, is the second. And for you, the first. "He led Eddie through the park, passing cigar shops and sausage stands and the "flat joints," where suckers lost their nickels and dimes. Heaven? Eddie thought. Ridiculous." (Albom, 2003: 34)

#### **4.2.2.2 Eddie Against Mickey Shea**

Conflict between Eddie and Mickey Shea happen in a small Arcade Rifle when Eddie begins practice the shooting for war. Mickey is Eddie's father's friend. At that time Mickey Shea is standing behind him. Suddenly he slaps Eddie's cheek hardly. He knows that Eddie is weak. He tried to remain Eddie that in war we must kill or we are being killed. Suddenly Eddie gets angry. It shows with his red face. Instinctively Eddie raises his fist to retaliate. It shows in quotation below:

“Eddie turned and stared at Mickey. Mickey slapped him hard on the cheek and Eddie instinctively raised his fist to retaliate. But Mickey belched and wobbled backward. Then he looked at Eddie as if he were going to cry. The mechanical gun stopped humming. Eddie's nickel was up.” (Albom, 2003: 60)

#### **4.2.2.3 Eddie Against his Father**

This conflict is happen after the war when Eddie has been released from the hospital, he backs into his family apartment on Beachwood Avenue. At this time his father drunks and he looks Eddie just sits on sofa and rubs on his bad knee while he stays indoors. His father yells and pushes him to get up and get a job while he tries to throw an upswing. Eddie says “enough” Meanwhile his father reels back to throw Eddie but Eddie moves on and instinctively Eddie grabs his father's arm mid-swing. That is the first time Eddie defends himself. It shows in quotation below:

“Get up,” he yelled now, his words slurring, “and get a job.” Eddie stirred. His father yelled again. “Get up . . . and get a job!” The old man was wobbling, but he came toward Eddie and pushed him. “Get up and get a job! Get up and get a job! Get up . . . and . . . GET A JOB!” Eddie rose to his elbows. “Get up and get a job! Get up and—

""ENOUGH!" Eddie yelled, surging to his feet, ignoring the burst of pain in his knee. He glared at his father, his face just inches away. He could smell the bad breath of alcohol and cigarettes. The old man glanced at Eddie's leg. His voice lowered to a growl. "See? You . . . ain't . . . so . . . hurt." He reeled back to throw a punch, but Eddie moved on instinct and grabbed his father's arm mid-swing. The old man's eyes widened. This was the first time Eddie had ever defended himself." (Albom, 2003: 108-109).

#### **4.2.2.4 Eddie Against Captain**

When Eddie knows that causes one of his leg flawed by the Captain. He shakes the Captain and they are grappling on the earth. Eddie straddles the Captain's chest and pummeling him. It shows in quotation below:

"WHY? YOU BASTARD! You bastard! Not you! WHY?" They were grappling now on the muddy earth. Eddie straddled the Captain's chest, pummeling him with blows to the face. The Captain did not bleed. Eddie shook him by the collar and banged his skull against the mud. The Captain did not blink. Instead, he rolled from side to side with each punch, allowing Eddie his rage. Finally, with one arm, he grabbed Eddie and flipped him over". (Albom, 2003: 87).

The quotation above shows that Eddie is easily gets angry. His angry shows on his feeling. He strikes Captain continuously.

#### **4.2.2.5 Eddie Against Environment**

After Eddie can escape he looks the final hut where he is prisoned and sneers it with the bad words and lifts his weapon. He burns it with his weapon. He get angry about this because he is tortured for along time in this place. It shows in quotation below:

"Eddie watched, sneered, then moved down the path to the final hut. It was larger, more like a barn, and he lifted his weapon. *This was over,*

he said to himself. *Over*. All these weeks and months in the hands of those bastards, those subhuman guards with their bad teeth and bony faces and the dead hornets in their soup. He didn't know what would happen to them next, but it could not be any worse than what they had endured. Eddie squeezed the trigger. *Whoosh*. The fire shot up quickly. The bamboo was dry, and within a minute the walls of the barn were melting in orange and yellow flames.” (Albom, 2003: 81).

#### **4.2.2.6 Eddie Against Morton**

Eddie looks so panic after he burns the hut and he thinks that there is still a person who live in the hut. Eddie backs to the barn and wants to help this person but suddenly Morton grabs him and Eddie spins around and swings wildly, hitting him. They fight in the flames. Eddie’s face shows his anger. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“Eddie was desperate. He turned back to the barn. Morton grabbed him again. This time Eddie spun around and swung wildly, hitting him in the chest. Morton fell to his knees. Eddie's head was pounding. His face twisted in anger. He turned again to the flames, his eyes nearly shut. There. Was that it? Rolling behind a wall? There? He stepped forward, convinced something innocent was being burned to death in front of him. Then the rest of the roof collapsed with a roar, casting sparks like electric dust that rained down on his head.” (Albom, 2003: 83).

### **4.3 Setting**

#### **4.3.1 Setting of Place**

##### **4.3.1.1 The Sky**

This is the place after Eddie’s death, where Eddie just can imagine the last time when he is still alive. The first journey where he only feels calm and can not feel any emotions after his death. He just floats over a vast yellow sea. In this

condition Eddie feels no fear before he feels about his pains and his worries. It shows in quotation below:

“Eddie could only picture it at a distance, as if it happened years ago. Stranger still, he could not feel any emotions that went with it. He could only feel calm, like a child in the cradle of its mother's arms. Where . . . ? The sky around him changed again, to grapefruit yellow, then a forest green, then a pink that Eddie momentarily associated with, of all things, cotton candy. Did I save her? Did she live? Where . . . . . is my worry? Where is my pain? That was what was missing. Every hurt he'd ever suffered, every ache he'd ever endured—it was all as gone as an expired breath. He could not feel agony. He could not feel sadness. His consciousness felt smoky, wisplike, incapable of anything but calm. Below him now, the colors changed again.” (Albom, 2003: 21–22)

#### **4.3.1.2 Teacup**

This is the place Eddie wakes up after his first journey of his death. Where there is an amusemant park. Here Eddie feels shy and he feels strange , alone and he is still on Ruby Pier, the place where Eddie killed by the accident. It shows in quotation below:

“EDDIE AWOKE IN A TEACUP. It was a part of some old amusement park ride—a large teacup, made of dark, polished wood, with a cushioned seat and a steel-hinged door. Eddie's arms and legs dangled over the edges. The sky continued to change colors, from a shoe-leather brown to a deep scarlet. He yanked harder and hoisted himself easily over the edge of the teacup, landing awkwardly on the ground, where he was struck by three quick thoughts.” (Albom, 2003: 26-27)

#### **4.3.1.3 Ruby Pier**

This place is where Eddie is still young. It is about 75 years ago, where Eddie lives and works before he moves on his apartment. Eddie feels like a childish. He walks in a circle, he jumps and feels incredible. He runs along the boardwalk like a children do. This is the first time Eddie on the journey and learns about life before he moves on another journey. The place where Eddie will get some lessons about life. It shows in quotation below:

“Eddie blinked hard. This was the Ruby Pier of his childhood, some 75 years ago, only everything was new, freshly scrubbed. Over there was the Loop-the-Loop ride—which had been torn down decades ago—and over there the bathhouses and the saltwater swimming pools that had been razed in the 1950s. Over there, jutting into the sky, was the original Ferris wheel—in its pristine white paint—and beyond that, the streets of his old neighborhood and the rooftops of the crowded brick tenements, with laundry lines hanging from the windows.” (Albom, 2003: 27-28).

#### **4.3.1.4 Heaven**

Heaven is the place where Eddie meets five person who teaches him about life. But it is the first time Eddie meets Blue Man before he meets the others. Here Eddie meets Blue Man. After that Eddie meets Captain in the second steps. In the third steps Eddie meets Ruby. After Ruby he meets Marguerite in the fourth steps. The last is Tala in the fifth steps. Blue Man tells Eddie about life and heaven. He tells that there are five people you meet in heaven. Blue Man teaches Eddie some lessons about his life on the earth. From this place Eddie gets a lessons about heaven steps. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“Where do you think?” the Blue Man asked. “Heaven.” NO! EDDIE SHOOK his head violently. NO! The Blue Man seemed amused. “No? It can't be heaven?” he said. “Why? Because this is where you grew up?” Eddie mouthed the word Yes. “Ah.” The Blue Man nodded. “Well. People often belittle the place where they were born. But heaven can be found in the most unlikely corners. And heaven itself has many steps. This, for me, is the second. And for you, the first.” He led Eddie through the park, passing cigar shops and sausage stands and the “flat joints,” where suckers lost their nickels and dimes. Heaven? Eddie thought. Ridiculous.” (Albom, 2003: 34).

#### **4.3.1.5 Funeral**

This is the place where Eddie and Blue Man talks each other. Blue Man tells Eddie about a fairness of life and death. He says that a fairness doesn't govern life and death. When Eddie rolls his palm suddenly Eddie and Blue Man are standing in a cemetery. In this place Blue Man teaches Eddie about life. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“The Blue Man held out his hand. “Fairness,” he said, “does not govern life and death. If it did, no good person would ever die young. “He rolled his palm upward and suddenly they were standing in a cemetery behind a small group of mourners. A priest by the gravesite was reading from a Bible. Eddie could not see faces, only the backs of hats and dresses and suit coats. “My funeral,” the Blue Man said. “Look at the mourners. Some did not even know me well, yet they came. Why? Did you ever wonder? Why people gather when others die? Why people feel they should? “It is because the human spirit knows, deep down, that all lives intersect.” (Albom, 2003: 48).

#### **4.3.1.6 Philipine**

This is the place where Eddie has joined in the army. Eddie joins the war with Captain. He is Eddie's commanding officer in war. They fight together in the

war. Captain explains to Eddie about the rules of the war. Eddie says if he is dead then Captain is dead too. Eddie says to Captain “you are my second person” and Captain just smile. In this place Eddie learns about the war. The war that changes the whole of his life. It shows in quotation below:

“THEY HAD SERVED together in the army. The Captain was Eddie's commanding officer. They fought in the Philippines and they parted in the Philippines and Eddie had never seen him again. He had heard he'd died in combat. A wisp of cigarette smoke appeared. "They explained the rules to you, soldier?" Eddie looked down. He saw the earth far below, yet he knew he could not fall. "I'm dead," he said. "You got that much right." "And you're dead." "Got that right, too." "And you're . . . my second person?" The Captain held up his cigarette. He smiled as if to say, "Can you believe you get to smoke up here?" Then he took a long drag and blew out a small white cloud. "Betcha didn't expect me, huh?" (Albom, 2003: 61-62).

#### **4.3.1.7 Seahorse Grill**

This is the place where Ruby works along time ago. She is the first owner of Ruby Pier. Where Eddie lives and works there. The place where Eddie and Ruby meet in heaven. Here Ruby tells about Eddie's life when he and his father work there. In this place Eddie knows about his father's life and gets a lesson about life. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“SHE SAT DOWN then, although there was nothing to sit on. She simply rested on the air and crossed her legs, ladylike, keeping her spine straight. The long skirt folded neatly around her. A breeze blew, and Eddie caught the faint scent of perfume. "As I mentioned, I was once a working girl. My job was serving food in a place called the Seahorse Grille. It was near the ocean where you grew up. Perhaps you remember it?" She nodded toward the diner, and it all came back to Eddie. Of course. That place. He used to eat breakfast there. A greasy spoon, they called it. They'd torn it down years ago. "You?"



Eddie said, almost laughing. "You were a waitress at the Seahorse?" "Indeed," she said, proudly. "I served dockworkers their coffee and longshoremen their crab cakes and bacon." (Albom, 2003: 113–114).

#### **4.3.1.8 Beachwood Avenue Apartment**

This place is where Eddie lives and grows up with his family. Where Eddie has to keep an eye to his mother while he works. Where Eddie lives with Marguerite and works as a maintenance at Ruby Pier. From this place he gets a life which makes him trap in the life that he wants to avoid. It shows in quotation below:

“The next day, Eddie went to the dispatcher and told him he was quitting. Two weeks later, he and Marguerite moved back into the building where Eddie had grown up, Beachwood Avenue apartment 6B, where the hallways were narrow and the kitchen window viewed the carousel and where Eddie had accepted a job that would let him keep an eye on his mother, a position he had been groomed for summer after summer: a maintenance man at Ruby Pier. Eddie never said this, not to his wife, not to his mother, not to anyone, but he cursed his father for dying and for trapping him in the very life he'd been trying to escape; a life that, as he heard the old man laughing from the grave, apparently now was good enough for him.” (Albom, 2003: 127–128).

#### **4.3.1.9 Italian Village**

This is the place where Eddie and Marguerite meet. The place where there is a wedding party, where Marguerite wears a long lavender dress and straw hat. Here Marguerite offers the sweet and tells about wedding party and love to Eddie. From this place Eddie gets a lessson about love. It shows in quotation below:

“He pushed through the threshold one more time and found himself in what appeared to be an Italian village. There were vineyards on the hillsides and farmhouses of travertine stone. Many of the men had thick, black hair, combed back and wet, and the women had dark eyes and sharp features. Eddie found a place against a wall and watched the bride and groom cut a log in half with a two-handed rip saw. Music played—flutists, violinists, guitarists—and guests began the tarantella, dancing in a wild, twirling rhythm.” (Albom, 2003: 149-150).

#### **4.3.1.10 The River**

This is the place where Eddie meets Tala. She is the last person Eddie meets in heaven. Here Tala tells that Eddie has killed her in a flame when there is a war. She asks Eddie to wash her wound. In this place Eddie realize and understand about his life on the earth, what he thinks about his life which useless is answered in this place. He knows it. It shows in quotation below:

“None of the other children seemed to notice him. They splashed and rolled and collected stones from the river's floor. Eddie watched one boy rub a stone over the body of another, down his back, under his arms. "Washing," the girl said. "Like our inas used to do." "Inas?" Eddie said. She studied Eddie's face. "Mommies," she said. Eddie had heard many children in his life, but in this one's voice, he detected none of the normal hesitation toward adults. He wondered if she and the other children had chosen this riverbank heaven, or if, given their short memories, such a serene landscape had been chosen for them. She pointed to Eddie's shirt pocket. He looked down. Pipe cleaners. "These?" he said. He pulled them out and twisted them together, as he had done in his days at the pier.”(Albom, 2003: 186–187).

### **4.3.2 Setting of Time**

#### **4.3.2.1950s**

This is the time when Eddie arrives in heaven at the first time after his death. Where Eddie looks at this place as the place of his childhood. An amusement park which is about 75 years ago. In this time he feels like infant. The moment where he meets Blue Man which teaches him about life. It shows in quotation below:

“Eddie blinked hard. This was the Ruby Pier of his childhood, some 75 years ago, only everything was new, freshly scrubbed. Over there was the Loop-the-Loop ride—which had been torn down decades ago—and over there the bathhouses and the saltwater swimming pools that had been razed in the 1950s. Over there, jutting into the sky, was the original Ferris wheel—in its pristine white paint—and beyond that, the streets of his old neighborhood and the rooftops of the crowded brick tenements, with laundry lines hanging from the windows.” (Albom, 2003: 27-28).

#### **4.3.2.2 Sunday Morning in July, 1920s**

This is the time when Eddie and his friends are tossing a baseball. When the ball flies over Eddie’s head and out into the street and the ball runs in front of a car. When Eddie runs it suddenly the car screeches and just misses him. Several minutes later the driver shocks and he dies because the accident. In this time Blue man tells Eddie about his death that is caused by him. From this moment Eddie gets a lesson about life from Blue Man. It shows in quotation below:

“TAKE ONE STORY, viewed from two different angles. Take a rainy Sunday morning in July, in the late 1920s, when Eddie and his friends

are tossing a baseball Eddie got for his birthday nearly a year ago. Take a moment when that ball flies over Eddie's head and out into the street. Eddie, wearing tawny pants and a wool cap, chases after it, and runs in front of an automobile, a Ford Model A. The car screeches, veers, and just misses him. He shivers, exhales, gets the ball, and races back to his friends. The game soon ends and the children run to the arcade to play the Erie Digger machine, with its claw-like mechanism that picks up small toys. Now take that same story from a different angle. A man is behind the wheel of a Ford Model A, which he has borrowed from a friend to practice his driving.” (Albom, 2003: 42–43).

#### **4.3.2.3 One Night**

This is the time when Eddie has been released from the hospital. The time where Eddie spent hours just to star out the window and rubs his bad knee that breaks because the war. This is the time when Eddie and his father fight. From this time Eddie realize and understand about work. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“AND THEN, ONE night, the speaking stopped altogether. This was after the war, when Eddie had been released from the hospital and the cast had been removed from his leg and he had moved back into the family apartment on Beachwood Avenue. His father had been drinking at the nearby pub and he came home late to find Eddie asleep on the couch.” (Albom, 2003: 108).

#### **4.3.2.4 Independence Day, the Fourth of July**

This is the time when Ruby Pier burn by the fire works. Where at the time is the independence day. Before the celebration, a few of the roustabouts choose to sleep outside and they lit a fire in a metal barrel to roast their food but when they set them off the wind blew and the sparks flew. Everythings happens quickly.

All of the park burns by the fire. From this time Eddie knows about Ruby Pier, the place where he spend the whole of his life to work there. It shows in quotation below:

“Fire,” the old woman said. “Yes. A very big fire.” She dropped her chin, and her eyes looked down through her spectacles, as if she were reading from her lap. “It was Independence Day, the Fourth of July—a holiday. Emile loved holidays. ‘Good for business,’ he’d say. If Independence Day went well, the entire summer might go well.” (Albom, 2003: 120).

### **4.3.3 Setting of Social**

#### **4.3.3.1 Lower Class**

Eddie belongs to lower class, because he comes from a family worker in the small village of the poorest sections of the city. His father always suggested him to take a job before he works as a maintenance at Ruby Pier where his father works. While he works as a maintenance he works as a taxi driver. It can be seen also in the place where Eddie lives with his wife in the flats. In can be seen from the following quotation:

“It is the 1920s, a crowded hospital in one of the poorest sections of the city. Eddie's father smokes cigarettes in the waiting room, where the other fathers are also smoking cigarettes. The nurse enters with a clipboard. She calls his name. She mispronounces it. The other men blow smoke. Well?.” ( Albom, 2003 : 19 )

“Eddie helped out at the pier, working evenings after his taxi job, greasing the tracks, checking the brake pads, testing the levers, even repairing broken ride parts in the shop. What he really was doing was protecting his father's job. The owners acknowledged his efforts, then paid him half of what his father earned. He gave the money to his mother, who went to the hospital every day and slept there most

nights. Eddie and Marguerite cleaned her apartment and shopped for her food. When Eddie was a teenager, if he ever complained or seemed bored with the pier, his father would snap, "What? This ain't good enough for you?" And later, when he'd suggested Eddie take a job there after high school, Eddie almost laughed, and his father again said, "What? This ain't good enough for you?" And before Eddie went to war, when he'd talked of marrying Marguerite and becoming an engineer, his father said, "What? This ain't good enough for you?" (Albom, 2003: 125).

The social surrounding and the form of custom at that time is the young follow what the rules is applied and their parents do and ask to them. It can be seen when Eddie's country enters the war. The young is required to join and register their self. It proves that the form of custom is based on what their parents do and ask, and it proves that how the the manner of life is applied at that time. It can be seen from the following quotation:

"YOUNG MEN GO to war. Sometimes because they have to, sometimes because they want to. Always, they feel they are supposed to. This comes from the sad, layered stories of life, which over the centuries have seen courage confused with picking up arms, and cowardice confused with laying them down. When his country entered the war, Eddie woke up early one rainy morning, shaved, combed back his hair, and enlisted. Others were fighting. He would, too. His mother did not want him to go. His father, when informed of the news, lit a cigarette and blew the smoke out slowly. "When?" was all he asked." (Albom, 2003: 57–58).

#### **4.4 Theme**

Perrine ( 1984 : 92 ) states that “ The theme of a piece of fiction is its controlling idea or its central insight. It is the unifying generalization about life stated or implied by the story. Based on the correlation among the structural

elements and each part of the novel, the writer concluded that the theme is “Lessons of Life Experienced by Eddie as the Main Character in Albom’s *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*”. Each person that Eddie meets in heaven makes Eddie reflect on his life, and also how his life has been intertwined with the others. However, the reflection of Eddie’s life proves that there are no random acts in life. It can be seen from each part, actually from the first lesson in the first part when Eddie meets Blue Man. Blue Man said that there are no random acts in life. We are all connected. Meanwhile, at the time when Eddie was child, he didn’t know him yet he was throwing a ball. And suddenly there is a car crosses on the street and the driver shocks because that ball and got the accident. Several minutes later the driver die because of the accident. From this lesson Eddie learns about fairness of life. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“You are here so I can teach you something. All the people you meet here have one thing to teach you. “Eddie was skeptical. His fists stayed clenched. “What?” he said. “That there are no random acts. That we are all connected. That you can no more separate one life from another than you can separate a breeze from the wind. “Eddie shook his head. “We were throwing a ball. It was my stupidity, running out there like that. Why should you have to die on account of me? It ain’t fair. “The Blue Man held out his hand. “Fairness,” he said, “does not govern life and death. If it did, no good person would ever die young.” (Albom, 2003: 47–48).

In the second lesson of the second part Eddie meets Captain. In this part Eddie learns about how to sacrifice. Captain teaches Eddie about sacrifice. Captain tells about how he sacrifice something and how Eddie’s sacrifice in the life before. He said that we all make sacrifice and it is a part of life. Captain

knows what Eddie thinks about what Eddie lost. From this lesson Eddie knows about sacrifice in life. Captain makes Eddie understand about what he does. It can be seen from the following quotation:

“SACRIFICE,” THE CAPTAIN said. “You made one. I made one. We all make them. But you were angry over yours. You kept thinking about what you lost. “You didn’t get it. Sacrifice is a part of life. It’s supposed to be. It’s not something to regret. It’s something to aspire to. Little sacrifices. Big sacrifices. Eddie shook his head. “But you . . .” He lowered his voice. “You lost your life. “The Captain smacked his tongue on his teeth. “That’s the thing. Sometimes when you sacrifice something precious, you’re not really losing it. You’re just passing it on to someone else.” (Albom, 2003: 93).

In the third lesson of the third part, Eddie meets Ruby. In this part Ruby tells about her story before Eddie born. She tells that things that happen before you are born still affect you and people who come before your time also affect you. From this part Eddie gets a lesson about life about what people who comes and does before us that still affect in our life. It shows in quotation below:

“So why am I here?” he said. “I mean, your story, the fire, it all happened before I was born.” “Things that happen before you are born still affect you,” she said. “And people who come before your time affect you as well. “We move through places every day that would never have been if not for those who came before us. Our workplaces, where we spend so much time—we often think they began with our arrival. That’s not true. “She tapped her fingertips together. “If not for Emile, I would have no husband. If not for our marriage, there would be no pier. If there’d been no pier, you would not have ended up working there.” (Albom, 2003: 123).

In the third part Ruby also tells Eddie about forgiveness. She said that she wants Eddie can learn about this from her story. She asks Eddie to forgive his



father who dies because illness, where his father leaves the things that Eddie doesn't know about him. The things that make Eddie hate his father and didn't talk each other until his death. From this meeting Eddie learns about forgiveness that makes him understand what his father does in his life. It shows in quotation below:

"It was the first time she had called him by name. "Learn this from me. Holding anger is a poison. It eats you from inside. We think that hating is a weapon that attacks the person who harmed us. But hatred is a curved blade. And the harm we do, we do to ourselves. "Forgive, Edward. Forgive. Do you remember the lightness you felt when you first arrived in heaven? "Eddie did. Where is my pain? "That's because no one is born with anger. And when we die, the soul is freed of it. But now, here, in order to move on, you must understand why you felt what you did, and why you no longer need to feel it. "She touched his hand. "You need to forgive your father." (Albom, 2003: 141–142).

In the fourth lesson of the fourth part Eddie meets Marguerite. In this part Marguerite tells about love. She tells that everything that happens in life has a reason to it all that way. She is in heaven and Eddie still loves her. She tells Eddie that love lost is still love but in a different form, that's all. She said that life may end but love doesn't. From this lesson Eddie learns about love that makes him survive and never wants anyone else in his life after Marguerite's death. It can be seen from the following quotation:

"There was a reason to it all," she said. "What reason?" he said. "How could there be a reason? You died. You were forty-seven. You were the best person any of us knew, and you died and you lost everything. And I lost everything. I lost the only woman I ever loved. "She took his hands. "No, you didn't. I was right here. And you loved me anyway. "Lost love is still love, Eddie. It takes a different form, that's all. You can't see their smile or bring them food or tousle their hair or move them around a dance floor. But when those senses weaken, another heightens. Memory. Memory becomes your partner. You

nurture it. You hold it. You dance with it. "Life has to end," she said. "Love doesn't." Eddie thought about the years after he buried his wife. It was like looking over a fence. He was aware of another kind of life out there, even as he knew he would never be a part of it." (Albom, 2003: 173–174).

The fifth lesson Eddy gets from the fifth part. In this part, Eddie meets Tala. This is the part where Eddie knows and finds the answer that he looks for along time since his death. In this part Tala tells about saving a child and the existence of life. She said that Eddie keeps children safe. From this part Eddie feels that he doesn't have long whatever comes after the five people he meets in heaven. It is upon him now. He gets an answer that he looks for in here. It can be seen from the following quotation:

"Tala plucked the pipe-cleaner dog from the water. "Supposed to be there," she said. "Where? At Ruby Pier? "She nodded. "Fixing rides? That was my existence?" He blew a deep breath. "Why? "She tilted her head, as if it were obvious. "Children," she said. "You keep them safe. You make good for me. "She wiggled the dog against his shirt. "Is where you were supposed to be," she said, and then she touched his shirt patch with a small laugh and added two words, "Eddie Maintenance. "EDDIE SLUMPED IN the rushing water. The stones of his stories were all around him now, beneath the surface, one touching another. He could feel his form melting, dissolving, and he sensed that he did not have long, that whatever came after the five people you meet in heaven, it was upon him now." (Albom, 2003: 191-192).

Based on the previous analysis about five lessons from five people Eddie meets in heaven, finally the result of the previous analysis of *the Five People You Meet in Heaven* is "Lessons of Life Experienced by Eddie as the Main Character.

Lessons of life here contains, there are no random acts. It means that we are all connected in the live. We can not separate one life from another life. It shows in the quotation below:

"That there are no random acts. That we are all connected. That you can no more separate one life from another than you can separate a breeze from the wind." (Albom, 2003: 48).

Fairness of life, sacrificial, forgiveness, understanding, love, survive, existence of life and awareness. Eddie gets those lessons from the five people he meets in heaven. They are Blue Man or Joseph Corvelchik, Captain, Ruby, Marguerite, and Tala. Each of them teach Eddie about the things that related with the life. From those lessons Eddie learns how the life is supposed to be.

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### 5.1 Conclusion

*The Five People You Meet in Heaven* is one of Mitch Albom's works. It tells about Eddie's journey in heaven. Eddie is a maintenance at an amusement park and he is dead by an accident. At that time he wants to help a child who stands under the carts which falls but the carts falls too fast and he half fly, stumble toward her, landing on the metal plat form which ripped through his shirt on split open his skin just beneath the patch that read Eddie and maintenance. This is the beginning where Eddie meets the five people related with his life after his death because of the accident happened in Ruby Pier. It is the beginning of Eddie's journey in heaven, he get lessons about life he has suffered, where each others have relations with others. Each people teaches a lesson to Eddie, from this journey Eddie knows how important the life he has.

Eddie is the main character in *the Five People You Meet in Heaven*. Eddie belongs to round and dynamic character. It presents how Eddie's characters in the story. He is smart, kind, gentle, and loyal. His legs were thin and veined now, and his left knee, wounded in the war, was ruined by arthritis. He used a cane to get around. His face was broad and craggy from the sun, with salty whiskers and a lower jaw that protruded slightly, making him look prouder than he felt. These make him survive and understand the life he has.

Conflict in this novel is divided into two aspect. They are internal and external conflict. Those conflicts happened before and after the main character's death, Eddy's death. These conflict changes the whole of his life. They also make him knows and understands life. They give him lessons about life since his death.

Setting in *the Five People You Meet in Heaven* is divided into three setting. They are setting of time, place and social. Each setting gives a description about how the time, place, and social is presented through the conflict and the character. There are some places, time, social setting described in this novel, such as Ruby Pier where Eddie works and spends the whole of his life there and heaven, the place where Eddie meets five people who teaches him lessons about life. Setting of time is 1920. This is the time when Eddie is young where Eddie plays the ball that makes Blue Man dies because an accident that Eddie makes. 1950 is the time when Eddie arrives in heaven at the first time after his death. When Eddie looks at this place as the place of his childhood. Ruby Pier which is about 75 years ago. Setting of social, this is the social surrounding which surrounds him at that time, the form of custom and the manner of life that is applied at that time that required children or the civil follow their parents. It influences how the children thinks about their life.

Based on the analysis of character and characterization, conflict, and setting, finally it can be summed up that the theme is Lessons of Life Experienced by Eddie as the Main Character. Lessons of life here contains, there are no random acts in life, fairness of life, sacrificial, forgiveness, understanding, love,

survive, existence of life and awareness. Eddie gets those lessons from the five people he meets in heaven. From those lessons Eddie learns how the life is supposed to be. The five people here are Blue Man or Joseph Corvelchik, Captain, Ruby, Marguerite, and Tala. Each of them teach Eddie about the things that related with the life.

## **5.2 Suggestion**

From this analysis, it is expected that the result of this study can give a valuable contribution to Dian Nuswantoro University, particularly for English Department and actually for English students. It is also expected by reading this thesis, the reader have such activities in learning and discussing about elements of fiction, actually character and characterization, conflit, setting and theme.

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